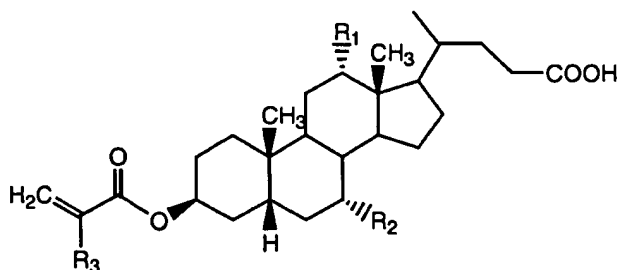


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin represented by the following general formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently ~~represent~~represents a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, provided that R_3 represents a hydrogen atom when R_1 and R_2 each represents a hydroxyl group.

2. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydroxyl group, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a methyl group.

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3. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydroxyl group, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

4. (canceled).

5. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydroxyl group, R_2 represents a hydroxyl atom, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

6. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a methyl group.

7. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

8. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, R_2 represents a hydroxyl group, and R_3 represents a methyl group.

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9. (previously presented): The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, R_2 represents a hydroxyl group, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

10. (canceled).